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A book published in the USSR in 1961, entitled V BOYAKH ZA RODINU (The Battle for the Homeland), author Vladimir I. LOBANOK (now First Secretary of the Vitebsk Party's Central Committee), contains a very interesting chapter about an exchange of incarcerated spies. Vera KHORUNZHAYA had been trained in a central party school in Minsk from 1921 until 1923. In 1924 she was sent to Poland as an underground worker. In 1928 she was arrested by the Poles and held in jail until 1932. In that year she, along with several other persons, was exchanged for a group of persons held by the Soviets. In 1942 she was sent to Vitebsk to work in the underground against the occupying Germans. She was caught and executed.

This chapter treats her as a hero and includes a picture of her.

In order to identify the other persons who were with her in the exchanged group or who were in the group released by the Soviets, we checked the captured documents hoping to find an account of the German interrogation. The result was negative. We now will check in available books on Soviet partisan accounts. If that fails we could try the New York Times for 1932. Also, we could check with EE/P -- possibly they have sources who could supply a lead or two. Would WRAGA know?

I'll notify you as soon as we have something concrete.

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